

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /074 W  
-----120430 060754Z /65

R 050827Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7927  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, CH, SN, TH, ASEAN PEPR

REF: SINGAPORE 1507 (NOTAL)

### 1. INDONESIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF THAI PRIME MINISTER

KRIANGSAK'S STATE VISIT TO PEKING WAS LIGHT TO MODERATE, DUE PRIMARILY TO HEAVY LOCAL FOCUS ON PRESIDENT SUHARTO'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW CABINET FOLLOWING HIS RE-ELECTION. ONE ARTICLE IN INDONESIAN OBSERVER (APRIL 4) HIGHLIGHTED THE MAIN POINTS OF STRAITS TIMES EDITORIAL (REFTEL) WITH EMPHASIS ON NECESSITY FOR ASEAN TO BE CAUTIOUS IN APPROACHING CHINA AND "TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE IN ANY SINO-SOVIET STRUGGLE FOR POWER."

2. EDITORIAL, IN SAME ISSUE OF INDONESIAN OBSERVER, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS THAI VISIT "MUST BE CONSIDERED A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BREAKTHROUGH IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THAILAND AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA." THE MAIN THRUST OF THE EDITORIAL, HOWEVER, EXHORTED THAT PRODUCTIVE BILATERAL RELATIONS MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT RESPECT AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. KRIANGSAK'S ANSWER TO A PRESS QUERY THAT THE CINESE MINORITY IN THAILAND WAS AN INTERNAL AFFAIR AND THEREFORE NOT AN

APPROPRIATE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WITH THE PRC WAS, IN THE OBSERVER'S VIEW, AN "UNMISTAKABLE HINT" TO THE PRC THAT SUCH "MEDDLING" WOULD BE REGARDED AS INTERFERENCE IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY. AFTER DRAWING COMPETITIVE TRIANGULAR LINES THAT NOW EXIST BETWEEN THE PRC, THE USSR AND THE U.S., THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT THAILAND'S PRESENT RELATIONSHIP TO CHINA IS NO "SMALL TURNABOUT FROM THE SEATO PERIOD. BUT THIS AGAIN IS AN EXAMPLE OF THAILAND'S FLEXIBILITY IN HER FOREIGN POLICY, WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN DETERMINED BY THE PREVAILING POLITICAL SITUATION."

3. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH OBSERVER IS NOT NORMALLY A GOI MOUTHPIECE, ITS COMMENTS REFLECT PREVAILING VIEW OF GOI POLICY TOWARD PRC AT THIS TIME.  
MASTERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
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